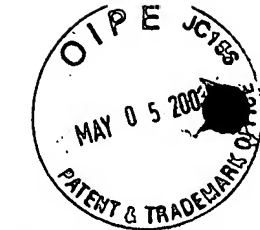


D-3004



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
PATENT

In the application of:  
Hughes

Serial No. 10/016,850

Filed: December 14, 2001

For: PHARMACEUTICAL CONJUGATES WITH  
ENHANCED PHARMACOKINETIC  
CHARACTERISTICS

Group Art Unit: 1614

Examiner: Delacroix Muirhead

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before

Title

Date

APRIL 30, 2003  
*[Signature]*  
att'y

4/30/03

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's communication mailed  
March 31, 2003.

Restriction has been required between Group I, claims 1 to 16,  
drawn to pharmaceutical conjugates, and Group II, claims 17 to 23,  
drawn to methods of treating an ophthalmic condition. Applicant  
provisionally elects the Group I claims. However, applicant  
traverses the restriction requirement.

Claims 1 to 16, the Group I claims, are directed to  
pharmaceutical conjugates comprising a therapeutic component and a  
specifically defined efficacy enhancing component. Claims 17 to  
23, the Group II claims, are directed to methods for treating an  
ophthalmic condition comprising the step administering a  
pharmaceutical conjugate comprising a therapeutic component and a  
specifically defined efficacy enhancing component. Thus, all of

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the present claims are closely related so that a search with regard to one of the groups of claims would encompass a search for the other group of claims. Thus, the Patent and Trademark Office is placed under no undue burden to consider all of the present claims in the above-identified application.

In view of the above, applicant respectfully requests that the restriction requirement be withdrawn and that all of the present claims, that is claims 1 to 23, be considered and examined in the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,



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FJU/jm

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